

KAMALA D. HARRIS
Attorney General

State of California
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE



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August 7, 2014

Stephanie A. Altig
Deputy Attorney General
Idaho State Police
700 S. Stratford Drive
Meridian, ID 83642-9927

RE: Reciprocity for Concealed Weapon Permits

Dear Ms. Altig:

Thank you for your recent inquiry regarding reciprocity for concealed weapon permits.

California law does not address reciprocity for concealed weapon (CCW) licenses, and it does not recognize CCW licenses issued in other states. Consequently, an Idaho resident with a valid Idaho concealed handgun permit may not carry a concealed weapon in California. In addition, California law does not authorize the Attorney General to enter into reciprocity agreements with other states for the recognition of CCW licenses.


It is generally illegal to carry a concealed firearm in California. (Pen. Code, § 25400.) Only individuals with CCW licenses issued by a county sheriff, chief of police, or other head of a municipal police department may lawfully carry concealed and loaded weapons. (Pen. Code, § 25655.) Police chiefs and county sheriffs may only issue CCW permits to persons who reside in the city or county where the police chief or sheriff has jurisdiction. (Pen. Code, § 26155, subd. (a)-(b).) Thus, an Idaho resident would not be eligible to receive a concealed carry permit in California.

California law does, however, authorize a citizen of the United States over the age of 18 years who is not prohibited by law from possessing a firearm, and who is temporarily in California, to transport by motor vehicle any pistol, revolver, or other firearm capable of being concealed upon the person if the firearm is unloaded and in a locked container. (Pen. Code, §§ 16850, 25610.)

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Information regarding other California firearm laws can be found on the California Department of Justice, Bureau of Firearms' webpage at www.oag.ca.gov/firearms. If you have any further questions, please contact the Bureau of Firearms at (916) 227-4003 or write the Department of Justice, P.O. Box 160487, Sacramento, CA 95816-0487.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Granger", with a stylized flourish at the end.

KIMBERLY GRANGER
Deputy Attorney General

For KAMALA D. HARRIS
Attorney General

KJG:

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STATE OF IDAHO

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

LAWRENCE G. WARDEN

Does the state of California recognize Idaho's Concealed Weapons License?

_____ Regular: IDAHO CODE § 18-3302
_____ Enhanced: IDAHO CODE § 18-3302K
_____ Both
☒ Neither

Does the state of California require a reciprocity agreement?

_____ No
_____ Yes

If yes, is a formal agreement, such as a Memorandum of Agreement, required or will a less formal agreement, such as exchange of letters acknowledging reciprocity of our states' Concealed Weapons Licenses suffice?

_____ Memorandum of Agreement
_____ Exchange of Letters

Kimberly Granger

Name

Deputy Attorney General IV

Title

August 7, 2014

Date

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